

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IOE-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7709

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 NEW DELHI 11919

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PORG IN CE

SUBJECT: G.K. REDDY ON NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT CONFERENCE

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION NEW DELHI FROM MADRAS AUG 13
IS REPEATED

QUOTE

SECTION 1 OF 2 MADRAS 1445

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, IN, CE

SUBJECT: G.K. REDDY ON NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT CONFERENCE

FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF G.K. REDDY ARTICLE TITLED:
"SCRAMBLE FOR SEATS AT COLOMBO SUMMIT MEETING" APPEARING
IN AUGUST 13 HINDU.

QUOTEM

THE SIMMERING CONTROVERSY OVER THE INTERPRETATION AND
APPLICATION OF CRITERIA REACHED THE BOILING POINT TODAY
AT THE FIRST WORKING SESSION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE
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NON-ALIGNED NATIONS, WHEN LIBYA DEMANDED THE ADMISSION

OF MALDIVES AS A FULL MEMBER, SAUDI ARABIA WANTED PAKISTAN TO BE BROUGHT IN AS AN OBSERVER, ALGERIA PLEADED FOR THE ELEVATION OF GRENADA FROM OBSERVER TO MEMBER STATUS, WHILE INDIA, YUGOSLAVIA, SYRIA, IRAQ, AFGHANISTAN AND OTHERS FELT THAT THE PRESENT CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE CONFINED TO THE LIMA THREE-RUMANIA, PORTUGAL AND THE PHILIPPINES.

THE TACTFUL HANDLING OF THIS CONFUSING SITUATION BY THE CHAIRMAN, MR. FELIX BANDARANAIKE OF SRI LANKA, AND A POWERFUL PLEA BY THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER, MR. Y.B. CHAVAN, RESORED SOME SEMBLANCE OF ORDER AND SENSE OF DIRECTION OF THE DIFFUSED AND DISCURSIVE DEBATE.

AFTER MR. BANDARANAIKE HAD RULED THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING SHOULD CONFINE ITSELF TO THE ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES FOR PROCESSING SUCH CASES, MR. CHAVAN SPOKE AT LENGTH ASSURING ALL CONCERNED THAT, WHILE THOSE WHO SATISFY THE CRITERIA WERE WELCOME TO JOIN THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT, THE COMMUNITY SHOULD AVOID FALSE SOPHISTRY AND SELF-DECEPTION IN THE INTERPRETATION OF ITS WELL ESTABLISHED NORMS AND DEFINITIONS. WHILE THERE WAS NO JUSTIFICATION FOR MODIFYING THE CRITERIA FOR ACCOMMODATING COUNTRIES THAT DO NOT OTHERWISE SATISFY ITS REQUIREMENTS, HE ASSEMBLED FOREIGN MINISTERS SHOULD ALSO TRY TO LIVE UP TO THEIR TRADITION OF ABIDING BY THE CONSENSUS THROUGH CONSULTATION OVER CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES, HE SAID.

MR. CHAVAN SET THE TONE FOR THE INCONCLUSIVE DISCUSSION DURING THE AFTERNOON WITH AN ASSURANCE THAT IF THERE WAS A CONSENSUS ON THE ADMISSION ISSUE, INDIA WOULD GO ALONG WITH THE REST OF THE NON-ALIGNED COMMUNITY. AT THE SAME TIME HE CAUTIONED AGAINST THE DANGERS OF GROUPISM WITHIN THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT WHICH WOULD DESTROY THE VERY BASIS OF ITS ENDEAVOURS TO BUILD UP A NEW INTERNATIONAL ORDER BASED ON EQUALITY AND CO-OPERATION.

FOR THE FIRST TWO OR THREE HOURS AT THE MORNING SESSION, IT WAS A FREE FOR ALL WITH ONE GROUP OF COUNTRIES LED BY LIBYA, ALGERIA AND SAUDI ARABIA TAKING UP EXTRAORDINARY POSITIONS THAT SEEMED TO MIX UP THE PROCEDURAL AND SUBSTANTIVE UNCLASSIFIED

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ISSUES FOR CLUBBING TOGETHER THE CASES OF THOSE LIKE MALDIVES, GRENADA AND PAKISTAN, WHICH HAVE NOT FORMALLY Sought admission or enhancement of their status with that of RUMANIA, PORTUGAL AND THE PHILIPPINES WHOSE APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN PROCESSED BY THE CO-ORDINATION BUREAU AT ALGIERS AND REMITTED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS FOR THEIR FINAL DECISION. ANOTHER GROUP OF COUNTRIES LIKE GHANA WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN OPENLY ESPOUSING OR OPPOSING THE ADMISSION OF ANY

NEW CATEGORY COMPLICATED MATTERS FURTHER BY SUGGESTING THAT THE CASES OF THOSE WHOSE APPLICATIONS WERE PENDING SHOULD BE DEALT WITH BY THE FOREIGN MINISTERS WHILE THE QUESTION OF ELIGIBILITY OF OTHERS LIKE MALDIVES, GRENADA AND PAKISTAN COULD BE REFERRED TO THE CO-ORDINATION BUREAU FOR CONSIDERATION IN THE NORMAL COURSE. BUT IT WAS A DEBATABLE POINT WHETHER THE PRESENT CO-ORDINATION BUREAU WAS STILL IN EXISTENCE SINCE IT HAD TECHNICALLY CEASED TO EXIST SINCE YESTERDAY AFTER SUBMITTING ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PLENARY MEETING OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS ON THE COMPOSITION AND MANDATE OF THE NEW BUREAU TO BE APPOINTED BY THE COLOMBO SUMMIT CONFERENCE.

THE INDIAN VIEW WHICH PREVAILED IN THE END WAS THAT THE PRESENT MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS SHOULD CONFINE ITSELF TO THE LIMA THREE WHOSE APPLICATIONS ARE ACTUALLY PENDING BEFORE IT AND DEFER THE CONSIDERATION OF OTHER CASES TILL THE NEXT PLENARY SESSION IN DUE COURSE AFTER THE NEWLY CONSTITUTED CO-ORDINATION BUREAU HAS EXAMINED AND REPORTED ON THE IMPLICATIONS OF THEIR REQUESTS. THE CHAIRMAN, MR. FWIX BANDARANAIKE, IN HIS RULING UPHELD THIS SUGGESTION. HE EXPLAINED THAT FROM THE INQUIRIES HE MADE IT WAS FOUND THAT MALDIVES HAD NOT APPLIED FOR MEMBERSHIP BUT MERELY INDICATED TO LIBYA ITS DESIRE TO JOIN THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT, THAT GRENADA HAD AT SOME STAGE WRITTEN TO ALGERIA IN ITS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE CO-ORDINATION BUREAU, REQUESTING AN ELEVATION OF ITS STATUS FROM OBSERVER TO FULL MEMBER BUT IT WAS NOT ACTUALLY REFERRED TO THE BUREAU FOR CONSIDERATION, AND THAT IN THE CASE OF PAKISTAN THERE WAS ONLY AN INDICATION OF ITS INTEREST BY SOME DELEGATIONS AT LIMA AND IT WAS NOT FOLLOWED UP SUBSEQUENTLY WITH A FORMAL APPLICATION. MR. BANDARANAIKE SAID THAT TO NEATLY BY PASS THE CONTROVERSY AND BLUR THE ISSUE TO

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SOME EXTENT BY RULING THAT THE CASES OF THESE COUNTRIES WOULD BE CONSIDERED IN DUE COURSE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES.

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ACTION IO-13

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O 131257Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7710

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MEANWHILE, THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN GOING ON AMONG THE ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS WERE TRANSFORMED TODAY INTO A FULL-FLEDGED MEETING OF THE ISLAMIC GROUP AT WHICH SOME COUNTRIES ARE REPORTED TO HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE ALSO SHOULD SEEK OBSERVER STATUS FOLLOWING THE PRECEDENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS, ARAB LEAGUE AND THE ORGANISATION OF AFRICAN UNITY. BUT THIS ISSUE WAS NOT FORMALLY RAISED BY ANY ISLAMIC COUNTRY TODAY, SINCE THE FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING HAS YET TO CONCLUDE THE DISCUSSION ON THE CRITERIA QUESTION.

AT THE END OF TODAY'S INCONCLUSIVE DISCUSSION, SEVERAL COUNTRIES SEEMED TO AGREE WITH THE INDIAN VIEW THAT THERE SHOULD BE A PROPER PROCEDURE IN FUTURE FOR CONSIDERING APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSIONS TO AVOID THE KIND OF EMBARRASSING SITUATION THAT HAD ARISEN. THE VERY PERTINENT QUESTION RAISED WAS WHETHER AN APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP, OBSERVER STATUS OR EVEN GUEST ATTENDANCE COULD BE DEEMED TO HAVE BEEN MADE IF, IGNORING THE NORMAL PRACTICE OF SUBMITTING SUCH REQUESTS TO THE CO-ORDINATION BUREAU THE PLENARY SESSION OF FOREIGN MINISTERS IS APPROACHED DIRECTLY THROUGH SOME THIRD COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE NO LOCUS STANDI TO SPONSOR SUCH APPLICATIONS IN THIS FASHION, BY PASSING THE ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES.

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BEFORE THE FOREIGN MINISTERS GOT BOGGED DOWN IN THIS PROCEDURAL WRANGLE OVER THE CRITEN A QUESTION, THEY FORMALLY ELECTED TANZANIA AND PANAMA AS THE TWO VICE-CHAIRMEN WHO WILL BE PRESIDING OVER THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC COMMITTEES, WHICH MET LATER TO DISCUSS THE DRAFT DECLARATIONS.

THEY SET UP THEIR DOWN DRAFTING COMMITTEES TO FINALISE THE DRAFTS AFTER DEALING WITH VARIOUS AMENDMENTS. THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE WILL HAVE TO EXAMINE THE MANY CONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTIONS TABLED BY COUNTRIES LIKE BANGLADESH CALLING FOR A FIRM DECLARATION AGAINST COVERT ATTEMPTS TO DE-STABILISE GOVERNMENTS AND FOMENTING INTERNAL UNREST. NORTH KOREA CALLING FOR UNCONDITIONAL WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN FORCES FROM THE SOUTH AND DISMANTLING OF FOREIGN BASES THERE, YUGOSLAVIA SUGGESTING A MORE ACTIVE ROLE FOR THE CO-ORDINATION BUREAU FOR INITIATING PROMPT ACTION BY THE NON-ALIGNED COMMUNITY TO COUNTER THREATS TO PEACE AND SYRIA INSISTING ON A PROVISION ENTITLING COUNTRIES TO INTERVENE IN REGIONAL DISPUTES THREATENING THEIR SECURITY AND PEACE.

BUT THE DRAFT POLITICAL DECLARATION CIRCULATED BY SRI LANKA CONTAINS A DECOLONISATION CHAPTER CALLING FOR SELF-DETERMINATION TO THE PEOPLES OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS UNDER FOREIGN RULE OR MANDATE AND THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN, BRITISH AND FRENCH HEGEMONY FROM THE CARIBBEAN AND OTHER NORTH AND SOUTH ATLANTIC ISLANDS SUCH AS PUERTO RICO, PANAMA CANAL ZONE, GUANTANAMO BASE, BERMUDA, AND OTHER FOREIGN POSSESSIONS AND THEIR RETURN OF THESE TERRITORIES TO THEIR RIGHTFUL OWNERS LIKE CUBA, PANAMA AND ARGENTINA. IT ALSO CALLS FOR THE TERMINATION OF FOREIGN RULE IN GIBRALTAR, ST. HELENA, COCOS ISLANDS, GUAM, SAMOA, SOLOMON ISLANDS, THE NEW HEBRIDES AND OTHER ISLANDS IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC REGION.

THE AFTERNOON SESSION ADJOURNED FOR THE DAY EARLIER THAN EXPECTED SINCE THE CHAIRMAN, MR. FELIX BANDARANAIKE, WAS HOSTING A RECEPTION FOR THE FOREIGN MINISTERS AND THEIR DELEGATIONS. BUT INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS WERE GOING ON TONIGHT IN AN EFFORT TO SETTLE THE CRITERIA QUESTION TOMORROW. WHILE PORTUGAL HAS SOUGHT ONLY A GUEST INVITATION, ROMANIA AND THE PHILIPPINES ARE STILL SEEKING OBSERVER STATUS IN THE

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HOPE THAT THEY WOULD AT LEAST BE INVITED AS GUESTS. BUT THE GRENADA CASE IS POSING SOME PROBLEM SINCE THE LATIN AMERICAN GROUP IS STRONGLY RESENTING THE MANNER IN WHICH ALGERIA HAS BROUGHT IN ITS PLEA FOR FULL MEMBERSHIP WITHOUT CONSULTING THEM. UNQUOTE. SIGNED MCCASKILL

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